

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In the | In the application of | | Examiner: Not Assigned | | |
|-----------------------------|---|---|------------------------|--|--|
| Burbank et al. | |) | Group Art Unit: 3736 | | |
| For: | TISSUE ACQUISITION SYSTEM AND METHOD OF USE |) | Confirmation No.: 8046 | | |
| Serial No.: 09/981,525 | |) | Customer No.: 23422 | | |
| Filed: | October 16, 2001 |) | TRANSMITTAL | | |
| Atty. Docket No.: 9619-1031 | |) | | | |

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

1. Transmitted herewith for filing in the above-identified patent application is a <u>Preliminary</u> <u>Amendment and Information Disclosure Statement</u>, a <u>Form PTO-1449</u>, and a <u>Return Receipt Postcard</u>.

2. Claim Fee Calculation

X No additional claim fee is required.

Amendment increases number of claims or multiple dependencies.

Additional Claim Fee Calculation

| Description | Fee Code | Claims Extra | | Rate | Fee |
|--------------------|----------|--------------|-----|--------------|-----|
| Independent Claims | 202 | 3-3= | 0 x | \$42 = | \$0 |
| Total Claims | 203 | 19-19 = | 0 x | \$9 = | \$0 |

Additional Claims Fee:\$0

3. Payment of Fees

X No fee is due with this communication.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees and to credit any overpayment of fees which may be required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or §1.17, to Deposit Account No 13-0201, referencing Atty. Docket No. 9619-1031. A duplicate copy of this transmittal is enclosed.

oy:____

James A. Fox

Registration No. 35,455

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited in the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid addressed to BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231, on 3/26/02, in Palo Alto, CA.

PATENT

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of

Burbank et al.

For: TISSUE ACQUISITION SYSTEM

AND METHOD OF USE

Serial No.: 09/981,525

Filed: October 16, 2001

Atty. Docket No.: 9619-1031

Examiner: Not Assigned

Group Art Unit: 3736

Confirmation No.: 8046

Customer No.: 23422

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE

STATEMENT

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please preliminarily amend the above-referenced application as indicated below.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, please replace the first paragraph with the following:

This application is a divisional of copending patent application Serial No. 09/196,125, filed November 20, 1998, which is a continuation-in-part of patent application Serial No. 09/057,303, filed April 8,1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,331,166, which claims benefit to provisional patent application Serial No. 60/076,973, filed March 3, 1998, all of which applications are hereby incorporated herein by reference in their entirety and from which priority is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. §§119(e) and 120.